

# 2025–26 TECHNIQUES EDITORIAL CALENDAR

## **September 2025: Striking a Chord in Music City (The VISION Issue)**

ACTE's CareerTech VISION 2025 welcomes you to Nashville, Tennessee! This issue of *Techniques* will showcase the professional development opportunities awaiting attendees at the premier gathering for career and technical educators nationwide. Discover keynote speakers who will inspire, concurrent sessions that will transform your practice, and networking opportunities that will expand your professional community. Join us as we highlight exemplary CTE programs and preview the comprehensive experience that awaits at VISION 2025.

## **October 2025: The Technology Revolution**

Technology continues to reshape education and industry at an unprecedented pace. This issue of *Techniques* will explore the transformative impact of emerging technologies — such as artificial intelligence and extended reality — on CTE programs and examine how educators are integrating these tools to enhance learning experiences. Content we seek will (1) showcase innovative equipment and technology implementation in CTE classrooms, (2) address ethical considerations, and (3) highlight how educators are preparing students for careers that may not yet exist. Special attention will be given to programs bridging the digital divide to ensure equitable access to technological advancements.

## **November/December 2025: The Work-Based Learning Advantage**

The connection between classroom and career has never been more vital. This issue of *Techniques* will delve into innovative work-based learning (WBL) strategies that unite education and industry. We invite contributors to share (1) models of successful employer partnerships that elevate student learning, (2) strategies for implementing authentic WBL experiences across career pathways, and (3) methods proven to validate students' skill development through WBL. From apprenticeships to entrepreneurial ventures, we'll explore how work-based learning is evolving to meet the needs of today's students and tomorrow's workforce.

## **January 2026: Empowering Special Populations**

As we begin a new year, *Techniques* focuses on creating CTE environments wherein all learners can thrive. This issue will explore how high-quality programs address the unique needs of special populations, including students with disabilities, English learners and economically disadvantaged students. Content will (1) highlight evidence-based practices for supporting learners' needs, (2) showcase success stories, and (3) provide practical resources for creating accessible learning environments. As we approach ACTE's centennial, we'll examine how our commitment to serving special populations has evolved over time.

## **February 2026: The Future of CTE Leadership**

The future of career and technical education depends on cultivating exceptional educators and leaders. As we celebrate CTE Month®, this issue of *Techniques* will address the critical challenges of teacher recruitment, retention and leadership development. We seek content that (1) highlights innovative approaches to addressing the educator shortage, (2) examines effective mentorship and professional development models, and (3) showcases pathways for classroom teachers to grow into administrative and leadership roles. Special features will spotlight exemplary CTE educators and their journeys, offering inspiration and practical guidance for those interested in the profession.

## **March 2026: Rural CTE: Challenges, Opportunities & Innovation**

Rural communities face unique challenges in delivering high-quality CTE programs, yet they continue to demonstrate innovation and resilience. This issue of *Techniques* will explore how rural schools and institutions leverage limited resources to create exceptional learning experiences. Content will focus on (1) overcoming geographic isolation through technology and partnerships, (2) identifying creative funding strategies and grant opportunities specific to rural areas, and (3) building programs that address local workforce needs while preparing students for global opportunities. We'll highlight the vital role CTE plays in sustaining and revitalizing rural economies across the nation.

## **April 2026: The Matter of Middle School**

Early career exploration sets the stage for meaningful high school experiences and beyond. This issue of *Techniques* will examine how middle school CTE programs introduce students to career possibilities while developing essential academic and technical foundations. Content will (1) showcase exemplary middle school CTE programs and their alignment with high school pathways, (2) explore developmentally appropriate career exploration activities for learners of all ages, and (3) highlight strategies for engaging families in the career development process. We seek submissions that demonstrate how early exposure to CTE can increase engagement, reduce dropout rates, and help students make more informed decisions about their educational journey.

## **May 2026: Elevating CTE Awareness for the Next Century**

As ACTE approaches its centennial celebration, this issue of *Techniques* will focus on strategies to elevate awareness and understanding of career and technical education among students, families, policymakers and communities. Content will (1) examine effective messaging and outreach approaches, (2) showcase successful awareness campaigns, and (3) provide resources to help educators become powerful advocates for CTE. Together we will reflect on changing perceptions of CTE and envision how we can shape its image for the next 100 years.

## **September 2026: A VISION for the Future**

## **October 2026: Is There an Instruction Manual?**

## **November/December 2026: The Centennial Celebration**